Welcome back to all of our families. I hope that you all had a restful holiday period and the children are ready for a new year of learning. We welcome a number of new families to our school for the start of 2015. We have 228 children at our school this year from 139 families. We also welcome Christy Roberts Prep/1 E & Prep F, Sarah Arthur 3 / 4 K and Elly Poletti—music. We trust that their time with us will be a happy and rewarding one. Nice to see so many new and familiar happy, smiling faces with the new preps settling in nicely.

IPAD ROLLOUT: 11th & 12th February. Note coming home shortly.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO**
**OUR OPENING SCHOOL MASS**
**IN THE CHURCH**
**9:30AM**
**TOMORROW, 30TH JANUARY**
All most welcome to attend.
Please stay for a Welcoming Morning Tea after Mass.

GR 6 LEADERSHIP BADGES TO BE HANDED OUT DURING MASS.

**PROPOSED CAMP DATES**
To be confirmed

- Grade 5 & 6 Melbourne Camp
  15th, 16th, 17th, 18th September

- Grade 3 Wilsons Promontory Camp
  25th & 26th November

- Grade 4 Wilsons Promontory Camp
  26th & 27th November

- Prep 1 Phillip Island Excursion 29th October
- Gr 2 Sleepover 29th October
- Gr 2 Phillip Island Excursion 6th November
- Gr 6 Inverloch Bike Hike
  14th & 15th December

**CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS:** It is an expectation that all children attend camp/excursions. **IF YOUR CHILDREN CANNOT ATTEND CAMP, PLEASE INFORM THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY SO WE CAN EXCLUDE THEM FROM CAMP COSTINGS. PLEASE NOTE:** IF YOU DO NOT INFORM THE SCHOOL OF YOUR CHILD’S NON ATTENDANCE TO CAMP/EXCURSIONS WE WILL CHARGE YOU THE BUS PORTION OF THE CAMP/EXCURSION COSTS AS THIS IS AN OUT OF POCKET EXPENSE FOR THE SCHOOL.
**SUNHATS**

In Term 1 & 4, St. Laurence’s blue school sunhats are to be worn. Hats are available from the school office.

“No hat, No play”

Cricket Style $10.00

*Please note that it is not acceptable to have a frayed hat or have graffiti on hats.*

---

**BUS TRAVELLERS ABSENCES**

All bus travellers are on a checklist which teachers will take out during bus supervision. If your child is **NOT travelling** on their bus as usual, please let the office know. This will avoid teachers waiting /looking for children on their bus travel lists. The Brumley Street shuttle bus that travels from St Laurence’s to the Secondary School needs to leave by 3:20pm. Therefore, children are asked to make their way to the Brumley St gate as soon as possible after the bell. Please talk to your children regarding this. (This **DOES NOT** apply to town buses as they are not part of the network).

---

**MEDICATION**

If your child requires medication at anytime during the year, you **must** fill in the official medical form which are available from the office foyer or online. All efforts will be made to meet medication times.

---

**STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your child is absent from school at any time, including being late or withdrawing from school early—the appropriate form needs to be filled in, alternatively, you can tiqbiz (our preferred option). Each family is provided with 3 forms for home. You may copy more of these or they are available from the website or the school foyer next to the sign/out home. You may copy more of these or they are available from the website or the school foyer next to the sign/out home. **You may copy more of these or they are available from the website or the school foyer next to the sign/out home.**

---

**SICK CHILDREN**

**Children do not learn when they are unwell.**

**Out of respect for staff and students, please keep your children home from school if they are unwell. It is recommended that children are kept home for 24 - 48 hours after gastro illness.**

---

**ASSEMBLY**

Friday assembly is at 9:00am in the Big Shed. All parents welcome. Starting February 6th.

---

**BELL TIMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Morning Bell</th>
<th>8.55am</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>1.05–1.45pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recess</td>
<td>11.05–11.25am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td>3.15pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**NO HARD COPY NEWSLETTER - TIQBIZ**

Newsletters are fortnightly. There will be no hard copy newsletters this year. From Wednesday, 12th February the newsletter will come via tiqbiz and the website only. To view it online go to www.stlleongatha.catholic.edu.au under “News & Events” along the top on the right hand side.

We will continue to email the newsletter to those who registered last year. If you would like to have newsletters via email please forward an email to me at principal@stlleongatha.catholic.edu.au.

---

**PREPS SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY**

Being at school is a very long day for a little person. Each Wednesday for the month of February Preps are not required at school.

**No School for Preps:**
- Wednesday 4th Feb
- Wednesday 11th Feb
- Wednesday 18th Feb
- Wednesday 25th Feb

Preps attend every day onwards from 2nd March.

---

**SWIMMING PROGRAM & REBATES FOR PREP—6**

A comprehensive swimming program schedule has been handed out to all students in grades 3—6 today.

**REBATES:**
For **ALL families Prep—6** who have a **full year membership** with SPLASH, your attendance at the pool may be covered and be eligible for a swimming rebate off your school fees if you provide a copy of your card by Friday 27th February.

**Swimming Program:**
- Monday for grades 3-6. Permission Forms need to be returned ASAP.
- The swimming program commences on Monday for grades 3-6. Permission Forms need to be returned ASAP. Many thanks to parents for their support. We are very lucky to have such an enthusiastic dedicated group of swimming teachers and the students are responding well to give their best efforts.

**Clothing will be needed** for students on Levels 4 - 7 in Lesson 3 (Thursday, 5th Feb) & Lesson 7 (Tuesday 17th Feb). As per note.

**Testing Day** is Lesson 8 Thursday, 19th February. As per note.

**Swimming Sports Grade 3—6:**
- Thursday, 12th Feb, our House Swimming Sports will be held at the Korumburra Pool starting at 9:45am. Students will need to wear their phys. ed. uniform, bring their swimming cap, a cut lunch and a drink bottle. Buses will be leaving school at approx. 9:20am and return before the home buses. Children who preform well in the sports will be selected for the school team to compete at District level the following week. **HELP NEEDED:** We will need some parent help with the sports, mainly judging. If anyone can help next Tuesday please let me know. Lachie Hughes.

**WORKING WITH CHILDRENS CHECK**

This year we will continue to explore improved parent participation and help in the classrooms and on excursions. However it is important to remind you that parents wishing to help in schools are required to have a Working with Children Check and inform the office once this is complete as we keep a data base of parents who have this check. This check can be applied for through the post office and is free for volunteers.
FISH’N’CHIP NIGHT

Each year we hold an informal get together in the school grounds at the start of the year. BYO food/fish’n’chips/pizza/salad etc. Bring along your picnic blankets/chairs etc.

Families are invited to get together on Friday 6th February at 6:00pm.

Children have a great time playing and parents have an opportunity to catch up and meet new families.

2015 STAFF

PRINCIPAL: Mr Chris Dortmans
DEPUTY PRINCIPALS: Mrs Michelle Charlton & Mrs Liz O’Loughlin
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CO-ORDINATORS: Mrs Liz O’Loughlin
LEADER OF CURRICULUM: Ms Anna Patterson
WELLBEING & STUDENT SUPPORT: Mrs Michelle Charlton
Prep/1 E Bridget O’Keefe and Christy Roberts
Prep F Julie Charles and Christy Roberts
1/2 G Judy Ryan
1/2 I Eliza Hughes & Karen Ginnane
3/4 L Michelle Charlton & Karen Ginnane (NP)
3/4 J Anna Patterson (P)
3/4 K Sarah Arthur (P)
5/6 A Paul McGrory
5/6 B Sharna Fitzpatrick
5/6 C Liz O’Loughlin & Trish Saultry
PE/Outdoor Ed: Lachie Hughes
Art/LOTE/Library: Marg Gatehouse
Music: Elly Polletti
ICT: Trish Saultry
Read Recovery: Kate Browne
Office: Kate Holian & Kylie Vuillermin
Grounds: Lenny Gale

SPECIALISTS:
Visual Arts: Mrs Margaret Gatehouse
Computer Technology Mrs Trish Saultry
P.E: Mr Lachie Hughes
LOTE: Mrs Marg Gatehouse
Library Tech & IT Support Mrs Marg Gatehouse

SUPPORT: SCHOOL OFFICERS – INTEGRATION/LITERACY:
Mr Glenn Bainbridge Mrs Rhonda Mackie
Mrs Kim Scrimshaw Miss Simone Pouw, Miss Katie Christopherson

READING RECOVERY: Mrs Kate Browne
EMU: Mrs Judy Ryan
MAINTAINANCE Mr Lenny Gale
CLEANER: Mr Bob McKenzie

LUNCHES

Please note that parents need to pack a spoon in their children’s lunches if needed.

Due to health regulations and the safety of our students the school is not able to provide hot water for such things as noodles or to heat lunches in the microwave. Please pack your school lunches accordingly.

It would be appreciated if children were provided with fruit that is pre-cut / peeled so as it is not left to the staff to do.

OTHER NEWS

TOWN BUS: The town bus service is run by Winterhalters Buslines and it’s a separate bus service to the State bus runs. If you are interested in catching the town bus please call Allan Winterhalter on 0428551145.

SIGN/IN/VISITORS BOOK

If you are taking or bringing your child to school outside the normal school times or visiting please use the sign in/out/Visitors Book and provide an absence notification form, available next to the sign in/out book.

A parent or guardian must sign in late children or early withdrawal of children (forms maybe written when signing children in or out).

AWARDS RECEIVED AT THE END OF YEAR PRESENTATIONS 2014

Citizenship Award: Tahlia Hill
Mary MacKillop College Award: Zahli Charlton & Wade Oliver
Sister of St Joseph’s Award: Chloe Simpson
Prep Award Gemma Meadley, Samuel Johnson
Gr 1 Award Audrey Gannon, Kade Berryman
Gr 2 Award Charlotte Berry, Alex Johnston
Gr 3 Award Grace Berryman, Luke Patterson
Gr 4 Award Shayla Guymyer, Taite Cumming
Gr 5 Award Merrin Giles, Tom Fitzgerald
Gr 6 Award Josh Wright

Congratulations to all our award recipients.

NO DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

It is policy of St Laurence’s that there are to be NO dogs in/on the school grounds even if on a lead. Assistance dogs accepted.

TERM DATES

2015

Term 1 28 January (school teachers start) to 27 March
Term 2 13 April to 26 June
Term 3 13 July to 18 September
Term 4 5 October to 18 December
Any comments or questions:  email: stlaurencepandf@gmail.com or Mel ph: 0425 750 095

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION - 2015: This year our executive members are: President: Vacant, Vice President: Melissa Neill, Secretary: Joanne Denbrok, Treasurer: Emma McGannon, Secondhand Uniform co-ordinators: Krista Evans & Rachel Cameron. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions or ideas.

MEALS ON WHEELS

As part of our Community Services Program the Grade 6 students will assist parents with the delivery of Meals on Wheels. Meals on Wheels is a wonderful Shire of South Gippsland Community based program which aids those who need assistance in their homes with meals.

**Volunteers:** More volunteers are needed to participate in this program. Ideally we would like to have enough volunteers that you would only have to go for one day session once a term. You would be needed from approx 11:30am - 12:30pm and would take two grade 6 children to assist you. **You do not have to be a grade 6 parent to help out.** Our first round commences on the week beginning 16th March.

If you wish to come on board we would appreciate your services. Please call Ellen on 0413 338 275 for more information or call the office.

ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PLANS & ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT PLANS

Parents please ensure that the school has the correct Asthma / Anaphylaxis Management Plan for your child/ren. Ideally we would require a new plans for each year so we are up to date with your child/ren’s needs.

### Late arrivals and early departures

We understand that on occasions there maybe circumstances that mean children may arrive late to school. By law children arriving late (after 8:55am) must be signed in by a parent/guardian. The same applies if your child/ren need to leave the school early. Parent/Guardian must notify the office and the child signed out. **Students cannot arrive late or leave the school grounds during the day without adult supervision.** (An adult must sign children in/out)

### Reflection

What will this year bring? You do not know; I do not know. It will bring its usual quota of work and play, of success and failure...all the things that are part of school life.

It is a new beginning; the planting of a seed that will grow for a year, the seed of fruit that will blossom in times to come.

It is a New Hope; hope for good work, for successful results, for friendship, for fun, for learning.

In this coming year, may there be learning, prayer and fun. May there be hard work, faith and friendship. May no one in this school be lonely; may no one feel left out in class; may no one suffer through others here.

As we begin this year in hope, in prayer and in friendship...may the Lord begin it with us, be with us during it and successfully bring it to its conclusion. May we, this year, together act justly, together love tenderly and together walk humbly with our God.

### Uniform

**Summer Girls**
- St Laurence’s School Check
- Dress/Shorts (white, blue, grey check)
- St Laurence’s White Polo Shirt (short/long sleeved)
- St Laurence’s School Rugby Windcheater
- White school anklet socks
- Black (traditional leather type) school shoes/boots  (NO SKATE SHOES)
- Royal blue school hat
- Hair ribbons – blue/white

**Summer Boys**
- Midford grey school shorts—basic style
- St Laurence’s White Polo Shirt (short/long sleeved)
- St Laurence’s School Rugby Windcheater
- Grey School Anklet Socks
- Black (traditional leather type) school shoes/boots  (NO SKATE SHOES)
- Royal Blue School Hat

**Basketball shorts and the netball/tennis type skirts are not accepted for sports uniform.**

### Sports Uniform

- St. Laurence’s polo shirt (short/long sleeved)
- Royal blue rugby knit shorts
- St. Laurence’s School Rugby Windcheater
- Royal Blue School tracksuit pants
- White socks
- Blue school hat
- Runners

**Uniform:** At St Laurence’s we take great pride in the community perception of our school and our appearance is an important part of this. It has been wonderful to see the children looking so smart in their uniforms and I thank all parents for making the effort to ensure that their children start the year with the correct uniform.

**Please clearly label all clothing items in an logical place so they can be returned to the children if found.**